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EPA HEADQUARTERS

EPA HQ Office of International and Tribal Affairs | Doug Gutro, Paul Wintrob

EPA's Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA) leads EPA's international and tribal engagements, working across EPA's programs and regions to develop and implement policy and programs that protect U.S. public health and the environment.

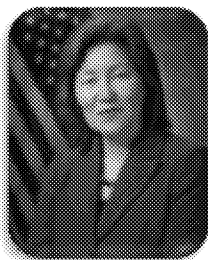
Office of
International and
Tribal Affairs
(OITA) Assistant
Administrator and
Deputy Assistant
Administrator

202-564-5500
[About OITA](#)

Because pollution does not respect international boundaries, OITA works with other federal agencies and international organizations and individual countries to address bilateral, regional, and global environmental challenges and advance U.S. foreign policy objectives.

Honoring the government-to-government relationship and respecting tribal treaty rights, OITA

guides the Agency-wide effort to strengthen public health and environmental protection in Indian country, with a special emphasis on helping tribes administer their own environmental programs.



Jane Nishida is the Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for EPA's Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA). She previously served as the Office Director of Regional and Bilateral Affairs within OITA. In her current capacity, she leads EPA's international and tribal engagements, and works closely with tribal governments, foreign governments, international organizations, and other U.S. agency partners on matters relating to environmental policy and program implementation in tribal lands and internationally.

Nishida has over thirty years of environmental experience working in federal and state government, and international and nongovernmental organizations. Prior to joining EPA in 2011, Nishida served as the Senior Environmental Institutions Specialist at the World Bank. From 1995 to 2002, she was appointed as the Secretary of Maryland's Department of the Environment. Additionally, she served as the Maryland Executive Director of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. She also held positions as Legislative Officer in the Maryland Governor's Office and Committee Counsel in the Maryland General Assembly.

Nishida received a Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs from Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon and a Juris Doctorate from Georgetown Law Center in Washington, D.C.

Office of
Regional and
Bilateral
Affairs
(ORBA)

[About ORBA](#)

- North America Program
- Middle East, Latin America, Africa and Caribbean Program
- Asia-Pacific and Europe Program

Office of
Global
Affairs and
Policy
(OGAP)

[About OGAP](#)

- International Organizations Program
- Trade and Economic Program
- Environmental Media Program

Office of
Management
and
International
Services
(OMIS)

[About OMIS](#)

- Budget & Resources Management Program
- Administrative Services
- International Travel Office

American
Indian
Environmental
Office
(AIEO)

[About AIEO](#)

- Planning & Communications
- Policies & Partnerships
- Tribal Capacity Development

Office of Regional and Bilateral Affairs (ORBA)

Mark Kasman, Director, 202.564.6400 kasman.mark@epa.gov

The Office of Regional and Bilateral Affairs (ORBA) provides policy and programmatic expertise for matters of environmental and geopolitical importance to the U.S. in other countries, with a special emphasis on priority countries and regions. ORBA serves as the agency's primary point of contact with government officials and environmental experts in priority countries and regions. The office develops agency-wide strategies for priority countries and regions and maintains relationships with multilateral experts and international environmental financial institutions in order to advance work in these areas.

Office of Global Affairs and Policy (OGAP)

Walker Smith, Director, 202.564.6455 smith.walker@epa.gov

The Office of Global Affairs and Policy (OGAP) provides policy and programmatic expertise for environmental and human health issues that are multinational in scope. OGAP provides institutional knowledge concerning relevant international organizations, serves as EPA's primary point of contact with these entities, and develops EPA (and, as appropriate, US government) positions vis-à-vis these organizations. OGAP identifies broad emerging international environmental issues and, in concert with internal and external partners, develops initiatives to address these issues. In addition, OGAP engages with the domestic environmental aspects of international instruments, such as trade, finance, and investment agreements.

Office of Management and International Services (OMIS)

Katrina D. Cherry, Director, 202.564.6605 cherry.katrina@epa.gov

The Office of Management and International Services (OMIS) is responsible for providing the full range of necessary management and administrative functions that support the Agency's international programs and coordinates cross-cutting administrative support services. OMIS manages OITA's resources to ensure effective use and development of staff, high productivity, cost-efficient operations, and support of the agency's environmental goals. OMIS provides expertise in strategic planning, budget formulation and execution, human resources, contracts and grants, and ethics for OITA. OMIS also coordinates the International Visitors Program for EPA.

American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO)

Felicia Wright, Acting Director, 202.566.1886 wright.felicia@epa.gov

The American Indian Environmental Office leads EPA's efforts to protect human health and the environment of federally recognized Tribes by supporting implementation of federal environmental laws consistent with the federal trust responsibility, the government-to-government relationship, and EPA's 1984 Indian Policy.

Headquarters International Press Releases - January 2017 to present | Doug Gutro, Paul Wintrob

[3/7/2018 EPA Announces Action Plan to Combat Harmful Algal Blooms in Lake Erie](#)

[2/12/2018 EPA Awards More Than \\$90,000 to Protect Children's Health along the U.S. -Mexico Border](#)

[12/12/2017 Administrator Pruitt Promotes Environmental Cooperation with U.S. Partners in Morocco](#)

[11/30/2017 Río Grande International Study Center Wins Second-Place Gulf Guardian Award](#)

06/12/2017 United States Resets Climate Change Discussion At G7

06/11/2017 Administrator Pruitt Promotes Importance of International Engagement at First G7 Meeting

05/23/2017 United States Files Complaint Against Fiat Chrysler Automobiles for Alleged CAA Violation

04/04/2017 U.S. EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt Meets with Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall

NAFTA - Commission for Environmental Cooperation | Doug Gutro, Paul Wintrob

Since 1994, Canada, Mexico and the US have collaborated in protecting North America's environment through the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (NAAEC).

The NAAEC came into force at the same time as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and marks a commitment that liberalization of trade and economic growth in North America would be accompanied by effective cooperation and continuous improvement in the environmental protection provided by each country.

The NAAEC established an intergovernmental organization - the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) –to support cooperation among NAFTA partners to address environmental issues of continental concern, including the environmental challenges and opportunities presented by continent-wide free trade. The CEC comprises a Council, a Secretariat and a Joint Public Advisory Committee. The Council is the governing body of the Commission and comprises cabinet-level or equivalent representatives of each country. The Secretariat provides technical, administrative and operational support to the Council. The Joint Public Advisory Committee (JPAC) - five citizens from each country - advises the Council on any matter within the scope of the NAAEC.

National Advisory Committee (NAC)

As provided for in Article 17, each Party may convene a National Advisory Committee (NAC) which may comprise members of its public, including representatives of non-governmental organizations, to provide advice to their respective minister on the implementation and further elaboration of the NAAEC. Each NAC holds meetings in its own country. The Canadian and Mexican NACs are currently not operative. Information about the US NAC is available on the Environmental Protection Agency web site at: US National Advisory Committee

Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC)

As provided for in Article 18, each Party may convene a governmental advisory committee (GAC), which may comprise or include representatives of federal and state, provincial or local governments, to provide advice on the implementation and further elaboration of the NAAEC. The United States' GAC is operative. Information about the United States' GAC can be found on the Environmental Protection Agency web site at: US Governmental Advisory Committee

The CEC receives financial support through the Canadian Federal Department of Environment, the Mexican Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales, and the US EPA. Commission Members include:

Canada

Minister Catherine McKenna, Environment and Climate Change Canada
Isabelle Bérard, Assistant Deputy Minister, International Affairs Branch
Agusti Bordas Cusco, Manager, Hemispheric Affairs, International Affairs Branch

Mexico

Secretary Rafael Pacchiano Alamán, Environment and Natural Resources
Lic. Enrique Lendo Fuentes, Titular de la Unidad Coordinadora de Asuntos Internacionales
Cintia Rubi Amezcua Orellana, Director of Commercial Concerns, International Affairs Coordination Unit

United States

Administrator Scott Pruitt, EPA
Jane Nishida, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of International and Tribal Affairs
Luis Troche, Senior Advisor for North America, Office of Regional and Bilateral Affairs, Office of International and Tribal Affairs

EPA REGION 1

Cross Office (ORA+OEP)

Environmental Review – Energy | John Moskal, Tim Timmermann, Bill Walsh-Rogalski

We follow transmission projects for the importing and exporting of electricity to and from Canada and the GHG reduction efforts of the New England states, which often involve the importing of renewable hydro power-derived electricity from Canada. There are three current projects we are following: 1) the Northern Pass transmission line; 2) the Atlantic Link; and 3) the Granite State Power Link. These projects are subject to review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). These projects require the issuance of a Presidential Permit by the Department of Energy (DOE).

Northern Pass is a 192-mile transmission line project that would deliver Canadian hydropower to New England. The project would include a transmission line from the Canadian border to Franklin, NH, where a converter terminal would be built. From there, a new AC transmission line will carry the energy to an existing substation in Deerfield, NH and into New England's electric grid. The NEPA process for this project is complete and the project was recently rejected by the State of New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee with a request for rehearing likely. (On February 28, 2018, Eversource asked New Hampshire regulators to reconsider their rejection of the Northern Pass project.) The project also requires a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Atlantic Link Project (Clean Power Northeast Development) proposes a submarine transmission line between New Brunswick, Canada and Plymouth, MA. The cable route is 337 miles, including 19 miles in MA waters (Cape Cod Ocean Sanctuary and Cape Cod Bay Ocean Sanctuary). The project will deliver energy produced by Canadian land-based wind farms and hydropower. Clean Power Northeast Development, a subsidiary of Emera Inc., has applied to the US Department of Energy for a Presidential Permit, requesting authorization to build the Atlantic Link subsea electric transmission project. The lead federal agency for NEPA purposes is the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM).

The Granite State Power Link would deliver Canadian wind power to New England. Staying within or adjacent to existing transmission corridors, the proposal is to build 59 miles of new transmission line from a new converter station in northern Vermont to a new converter station in Monroe, NH. From Monroe 109 miles of transmission line will be upgraded to a new switching station in Londonderry, NH. EPA participated in a preliminary kickoff meeting for the project.

Upcoming International Meetings

**St. John River
Collaboration**
April 25-26, 2018
New Brunswick, Canada

**Emergency Response
CANUSLANT**
May 15-16, 2018
Rockport, ME

**International
Decontamination
Research &
Development
Conference**
May 2018
EPA Research Triangle
Park Campus, NC

Gulf of Maine Council
June 2018
Gloucester, MA

**New England
Governors/Eastern
Canadian Premiers**
August 12-14, 2018
Stowe, VT

* See program specific
summaries for additional
details.

We are assisting the Department of Homeland Security in starting a Regional Resiliency Assessment Program (RRAP) study of energy resilience for energy coming from Canada.

Office of the Regional Administrator

New England Governors/Eastern Canadian Premiers | Cynthia Greene, Doug Gutro, Kate Melanson

Since 1973, the six New England states and the five Eastern Canadian provinces have worked cooperatively to address their shared interests across the border. Through the annual conferences of governors and premiers and discussions of joint committees, NEG/ECP encourages cooperation by:

- Developing networks and relationships
- Taking collective action
- Engaging in regional projects
- Undertaking research
- Increasing public awareness of shared interests

At their conferences, generally held annually, the governors and premiers discuss issues of common interest and concern, and enact policy resolutions that call on actions by the states and provincial governments, as well as by the two national governments. During the year, the conference convenes meetings of state and provincial officials, organizes roundtables and workshops, and prepares reports and studies of issues of regional import.

Members

Dan Malloy (Connecticut), Paul LePage (Maine) Charlie Baker (Massachusetts), Chris Sununu (New Hampshire), Gina Raimondo (Rhode Island), Phil Scott (Vermont); Brian Gallant (New Brunswick), Dwight Ball (Newfoundland and Labrador), Stephen McNeil (Nova Scotia), Wade MacLauchlan (Prince Edward Island), Philippe Couillard (Québec).



The NEG/ECP held their 41st conference in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island on August 27-29, 2017. The key documents from the conference are listed below and are included in the attachments section.

- [2017 Update of the Regional Climate Change Action Plan](#)
- [Resolution 41-1: Resolution Concerning Trade Integration and Benefits of Cross-Border Trade](#)
- [Resolution 41-2: Resolution Concerning The Regional Climate Change Action Plan](#)
- [Resolution 41-3: Resolution Concerning Response To Emergencies In A Changing Climate](#)
- [Resolution 41-4: Resolution Concerning Transportation](#)

The NEG/ECP will hold their annual meeting in Stowe, VT on August 12-14, 2018. At that meeting they will outline plans for an update on the Climate Action Plan signed in 2017 with the expectation that they will report accomplishments on those plans at the 2019 annual meeting.

Legal | LeAnn Jensen and Program Staff

A range of Canadian issues are elevated to ORC, including enforcement matters that require approval by the Regional Judicial Officer and all regional MOUs/agreements, including MOUs and MOAs that involve Canadian entities.

Alberta Sands Oil Training

Under a 2012 co-sponsorship agreement with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP), the EPA Region 1 Emergency Response Branch conducted training concerning the shipment of Oil Sands from Alberta, Canada into the U.S. The purpose of the event was to train EPA, ME DEP and Regional Response Team members to prepare for potential oil releases. Although Canada did not cosponsor or participate in this training, the training concerned hazards posed by this Canadian commercial activity.

Appropriations

In response to a cross-border issue involving Region 1 emergency responders, OGC determined that appropriated funds may be used to pay for collision damage waiver or theft insurance for rental cars traveling in Canada if the insurance is necessary because of rental agency requirements, a foreign statute, or legal procedures that could cause extreme difficulty for an employee involved in an accident. Appropriated funds may not be used to pay for personal accident insurance for the federal employee or for optional insurance.

Enforcement

In August 2017, Region 1 signed a settlement agreement with a Canadian pesticide manufacturer. Titled "In the Matter of: Ferti Technologies," Docket No: 01-2017-0047, the settlement resolved the company's FIFRA violations. Headquarters was not involved in this settlement because OITA only requires consultation for cross-border criminal issues.

Gulf of Maine Agreement

In 1989, the states of Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire, and the Canadian provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, pledged to work together for the wellbeing and protection of the Gulf of Maine, over which they share jurisdiction. The signed agreement is on the following two pages. In 1990-1991, federal agencies, including EPA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Department of Interior, were invited to participate on the Council in an advisory role and have remained actively engaged since then. (See OEP's "Gulf of Maine" summary for additional information.)

*AGREEMENT ON
CONSERVATION OF THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT
OF THE GULF OF MAINE
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE BORDERING STATES AND PROVINCES*

The Governments of Maine, Massachusetts, New Brunswick, New Hampshire, Nova Scotia, as Parties to this Agreement and;

Considering that the shoreline, seabed, waters and associated natural resources of the Gulf of Maine region, including Georges Bank and the Bay of Fundy, constitute precious public natural resources shared by the contiguous States and Provinces and;

Considering that the natural resources of the Gulf of Maine are interconnected and form part of an overall ecosystem that transcends political boundaries and;

Considering that the sustainable development and use of these resources for recreational and aesthetic enjoyment activities as well as fish and wildlife habitat is dependent on the ecological integrity of the Gulf ecosystem and;

Considering that the planning and management of human activities which may affect the Gulf ecosystem should recognize and be based upon an understanding of the systems' integrity and;


Considering that the Parties to this agreement recognize a shared duty to protect and conserve the renewable and non-renewable resources of the Gulf for the use, benefit and enjoyment of all their citizens, including generations yet to come and;


Considering that the most effective means of protecting, conserving and managing the region's resources is through the cooperative pursuit of consistent policies, initiatives and programs and;

Considering that studies conducted by National, State and Provincial governments and other agencies have found that, without prudent management, the future development and use of the Gulf resources may have significant adverse impacts on the environment, economy, and general welfare of the Parties and have agreed to the following:

1. The Parties agree to establish a Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment to discuss and act upon environmental issues of common concern including but not limited to:
 - the protection and conservation of the ecological balance within the Gulf of Maine ecosystem;
 - the problem of marine debris and medical waste;
 - the relationship between land use and the marine environment;
 - the sustainable use of resources within the Gulf of Maine;
 - cooperative programs to better protect and conserve the Gulf's natural resources.
2. The Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment will be composed of two representatives from each of the Gulf of Maine States and Provinces to be appointed by their respective Governors and Premiers within 60 days of the effective date of this Agreement.
3. The Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment will produce its first annual report on environmental trends and conditions including specific recommendations on a Gulf of Maine Action Plan within 15 months of its appointment.
4. The Parties agree to minimize actions that would result in degradation of environmental quality or depletion of resources that individually or cumulatively could result in significant adverse impacts on resources leading to loss of sustainable use or environmental viability.
5. The Parties agree to design and develop a coordinated monitoring program to provide improved information for future decisions concerning the Gulf.
6. The Parties agree that the successful conservation of Gulf resources will require the development of additional agreements or protocols on specific issues or concerns that may be raised from time to time.


SIGNATURES:


Honorable John R. McKernan, Jr.
Governor, Maine


Honourable John M. Buchanan
Premier, Nova Scotia


Honorable Judd Gregg
Governor, New Hampshire


Honourable Frank McKenna
Premier, New Brunswick


Honorable Michael S. Dukakis
Governor, Massachusetts

Lake Champlain and the Missisquoi Watershed State/Provincial MOU

Although there are no EPA MOUs with the Canadians that specifically concern Lake Champlain, there are MOUs at the state/provincial level: the NY-VT-QC MOU for the management of the Lake Champlain watershed and the VT-QC MOU specifically for phosphorus reduction in the Missisquoi watershed. There is a management plan for Lake Champlain, called “Opportunities for Action” which is also not an official Federal/Canadian MOU, but describes the Management Committee’s plan to restore and protect the Lake. (See OEP’s “Lake Champlain/Missisquoi” summary for additional programmatic information.)

Maliseet and First Nation Leaders Statement of Cooperation

EPA Region 1 was a party to a 2016 agreement titled a “Statement of Cooperation between the Maliseet Tribal and First Nation Leaders, Wolastoq River Statement of Cooperation.” Other parties to this agreement include the Houlton Band of Maliseets, Madawaska Maliseet First Nation, Tobique First Nation, Woodstock First Nation, Kingsclear First Nation, St. Mary’s First Nation, Oromocto First Nation, Viger First Nation, Bureau of Indian Affairs, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, United States Army Corps of Engineers, United States Geological Survey, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Environment and Climate Change Canada. The agreement memorializes the parties’ intent to restore and protect the St. John’s River. (See OEP’s “Tribes” and “St. John’s River” summaries for additional programmatic information.)

Village of Derby Line, Vermont and Town of Rock Island, Quebec MOU

An agreement was entered into between the Village of Derby Line, VT and the Town of Rock Island, Quebec in June 1980 allowing Derby Line to discharge their wastewater to the Stanstead Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) located in Rock Island. This agreement also required that Derby Line pay approximately 50% of any upgrade costs associated with the WWTF. (See OEP’s “Derby Line” summary for additional programmatic information.)

International Visitors | Paul Wintrob

Date	Group	Topic
Dec 2017	China, Ministry of Env. Protection	Enforcement: federal, state, local
Jul 2017	Madrid, Spain, Engineering Students	Industri-plex & Wells G+H Superfund sites
Apr 2017	University of Tasmania in Australia	Coastal marine environment
Oct 2016	Jordan Ministry of Environment	Air monitoring
Jun 2016	South Korea	TRI and EPCRA
Jun 2016	Australian Department of Defense	Emerging Contaminants: PFOA/PFOS
Apr 2016	Taiwan	ATSDR and Food Additives
Feb 2016	China’s National Development Reform Commission’s Climate Change Division	Enforcement: federal, state, local

Office of Environmental Measurement and Evaluation

Cyanobacteria Monitoring Collaborative | Hilary Snook

Region 1 Lab partnered with our states and NY to convene a region-wide cyanobacteria monitoring and “bloom watch” workgroup to collaboratively establish a uniform and consistent regional approach to monitoring cyanobacteria. The Cyanobacteria Monitoring Collaborative has significantly expanded each year, with many national and international waterbodies sampled. More active participants include several public water suppliers, lake associations and citizen scientists. International participants include

New Zealand, Brazil, Guatemala, Mexico, Argentina, China, South Korea, and France with Alberta, Canada expressing interest. There are three components: 1) *BloomWatch* - a crowdsourcing, citizen science smart phone app that the public can use to document, identify, and report potential cyanobacteria blooms; 2) *CyanoScope* – developed for trained citizen scientists and professional water quality managers to collect water samples, identify potential toxin producing cyanobacteria genera, and upload microscope images for global sharing; and 3) *Cyanomonitoring* – a component that engages environmental professionals and trained citizen scientists in monitoring using a custom designed field monitoring kit and a hand held field fluorometer to test for cyanobacteria in water samples to track progression through the course of the sampling period, helping to forecast upcoming bloom events and provide early warning of harmful blooms in order to better manage recreational waterbodies and drinking water sources.

Department of State/EPA Technical Assistance Program | Bob Judge, Alysha Thompson

Bob Judge and Alysha Thompson were selected to serve as volunteer Air Quality Fellows as part of a Department of State (DOS)/EPA initiative. The DOS has installed air monitors at various embassies around the world and partnered with EPA to provide technical assistance. This assistance helps the embassies better understand the data that is being collected from a data quality perspective, what the data means, and what can be done about it. Bob supports the embassy in Lima, Peru, and Alysha supports the embassies in Astana, Kazakhstan and Algiers, Algeria. The air quality data from the Embassies can be viewed at: https://www.airnow.gov/index.cfm?action=airnow.global_summary.

Office of Ecosystem Protection

Derby Line | Katie Marrese

The Village of Derby Line, VT sends its wastewater to the Stanstead WWTF located in the Town of Rock Island, Quebec. The Stanstead WWTF, which was built in 1979, needs to be upgraded in order to meet permit limits. An MOU between Derby Line and Rock Island requires that Derby Line pay 50% of the cost, which the town will be funding through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF). The CWSRF has an American steel and iron provision. Derby Line requested a public interest waiver from that provision in May 2017. Governor Scott, Senator Leahy, and Secretary Moore all wrote letters of support for the waiver request. RA Alex Dunn was also instrumental in moving the process along. On January 16, 2018, the public interest waiver was approved allowing Derby Line to use either American or Canadian iron and steel in the WWTF upgrade project.

Climate GHG | Cynthia Greene

Region 1 has been involved in the New England Governors' and Eastern Canadian Premiers' (NEG/ECP) joint efforts at reducing GHG emissions. They meet annually. The most recent NEG/ECP meeting took place Aug 27-29 on Prince Edward Island. A key highlight was a resolution to reduce GHG emissions by 75-80% by 2050. Resolutions on the following topics were signed: cross-border trade; regional climate plan; emergency response; and transportation. A 2017 Update of the Regional Climate Change Action Plan was issued. The NEG/ECP will hold their annual meeting in Stowe, VT on August 12-14, 2018. At that meeting they will outline plans for the update on the Climate Action Plan signed in 2017 with the expectation that they will report accomplishments on those plans at the 2019 annual meeting.

Gulf of Maine Council | Ann Rodney, Regina Lyons

EPA is on the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment (GOMC) along with representatives of three states (ME, MA, NH), two Canadian provinces (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia), and other federal agencies from the US and Canada. The GOMC coordinates and shares information on environmental management issues facing the Gulf, including: water quality, habitat, and sustainable coastal communities. The annual meeting will be held in June 2018 in Gloucester, MA. Regular conference calls also take place. The Council was established by the New England Governors/Eastern Canadian Premiers Council in 1989 (see the signed agreement in the ORA "Legal" section). The GOMC is planning a Gulf of Maine Symposium and workshop about the future of the Gulf of Maine in 2019. Currently the Council is making revisions to the work plan and action plan.

International Joint Commission | Ralph Abele

Canada and the US created the International Joint Commission because they recognized that each country is affected by the other's actions in lake and river systems along the border. The two countries cooperate to manage these waters wisely and to protect them for the benefit of today's citizens and future generations. The IJC is guided by the Boundary Waters Treaty, signed by Canada and the US in 1909. The treaty provides general principles, rather than detailed prescriptions, for preventing and resolving disputes over waters shared between the two countries and for settling other transboundary issues.

The IJC has two main responsibilities: regulating shared water uses and investigating transboundary issues and recommending solutions. The IJC's recommendations and decisions take into account the needs of a wide range of water uses, including drinking water, commercial shipping, hydroelectric power generation, agriculture, industry, fishing, recreational boating and shoreline property.

EPA Region 1's sole involvement in the IJC is our work on the International St. Croix Watershed Board (See additional work in the St. Croix summary). Below are short summaries of the boards and committees within the IJC:

Accredited Officers for the St. Mary – Milk Rivers

Responsible for the measurement and apportionment of waters of the St. Mary and Milk Rivers in accordance with a 1921 IJC Order governing the watersheds.

Columbia River Board of Control

Reports on the effects of the Grand Coulee Dam and its reservoir, Franklin D. Roosevelt Lake, on water levels and flows at the boundary.

Great Lakes Science Advisory Board

Provides scientific advice to the IJC and is responsible for developing recommendations on all matters related to research and the development of scientific knowledge pertinent to Great Lakes water quality.

Great Lakes Water Quality Board

Responsible for assisting the IJC with the exercise of the functions, powers and responsibilities assigned to it in the Agreement.

Health Professionals Advisory Board

Assists the IJC by providing advice on clinical and public health issues related to the transboundary environment, and is responsible for recommending ways to communicate these issues with the public.

Kootenay Lake Board of Control

Responsible for the supervision of the operation of the Corra Linn Dam and ensures that conditions set for Kootenay Lake are maintained.

International Lake of the Woods Board of Control

Responsible for maintaining water levels on Lake of the Woods in accordance with the 1925 Lake of the Woods Convention and Protocol, signed by Canada and the US.

Lake Ontario - St. Lawrence Board

Ensures that outflows from Lake Ontario through the Moses-Saunders Dam meet the requirements of the IJC order. It also assesses the outflow regulation plan and conducts studies requested by the IJC.

Lake Superior Board of Control

Oversees the operation of various control works on the St. Mary's River that control the outflow of Lake Superior at Sault Ste. Marie.

Niagara Board of Control

Monitors the operation of the Chippawa-Grass Island Pool control structure above Niagara Falls, and supervises the annual installation and removal of an ice boom at the outlet of Lake Erie.

Osoyoos Lake Board of Control

Monitors and manages water levels on Osoyoos Lake, which are regulated by the Zosel Dam.

Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board

Assists with binational coordination of water quality efforts for the watershed, and coordinates the management of water levels and flows on Rainy River and Rainy Lake.

Red River Board

Keeps the IJC informed of basin activities that affect transboundary river flows, water quality, and ecosystem health in the Red River and monitors the implementation of flood-related recommendations made by the IJC.

Lake Champlain (Missisquoi Bay, Richelieu River) | MaryJo Feuerbach, Mel Cote, Eric Perkins

EPA administers the Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) and its \$4.4 million annual budget through its grants management authority and by serving on the LCBP Steering Committee, which also includes representatives from the states of Vermont and New York, the province of Quebec, other federal agencies, academic institutions, and various nongovernmental organizations. EPA is also overseeing implementation of a total maximum daily load (TMDL) plan to reduce phosphorous loadings to the lake that was approved in 2015. The majority of phosphorus loads comes from runoff from farms. We are working with OITA/State Department to provide information and feedback on their plan to initiate a new reference for Lake Champlain to compile information on existing monitoring programs and measures being taken to address water quality concerns, and provide recommendations on how current efforts can be strengthened (e.g., summarizing gaps or opportunities, identifying possible approaches to strengthen collaboration, efficiency, or impact). We are also coordinating with Quebec and VT on a new river management and assessment project for the Rock River for which a kick-off meeting took place during the week of Oct 23, 2017.

Lake Memphremagog | Eric Perkins

The Quebec Vermont Steering Committee on Lake Memphremagog works to reduce the nutrient load coming from both the state and the province. We are working with OITA/State Department to provide information and feedback on their plan to initiate a new reference that would identify the range of nutrient loading issues that are of concern in the Lake Memphremagog basin and make recommendations on how current efforts can be strengthened, including consideration of management approaches being taken for Lake Champlain and Missisquoi Bay that may be applicable. The Phosphorus TMDL has been approved. The water flows from south to north. No comments were received from citizens of Quebec on the TMDL during the public comment period. The largest landfill in Vermont (Coventry is just south of the lake) is considering a three-fold expansion of its size. The potential 51-acre expansion would add lined landfill cells and a stormwater retention pond. Senator Leahy and a Canadian Member of Parliament have expressed concerns.

St. Croix River | Ralph Abele, Mike Stover

International St. Croix Watershed Board: A senior EPA Region 1 representative has for many years been an appointed US Member of the International St. Croix River Watershed Board. Currently, Ralph Abele (CWQ) is the appointee. Since 1904 the Board has issued operating orders concerning four of the dams on the river which span the International Boundary. The Board typically meets twice a year, but is active throughout the year. The Board currently has nine members (five Canadian, four US) who are generally appointed for their technical expertise on issues related to the St. Croix River. The Board is one of 22 which had been set up by the International Joint Commission across the U.S. /Canadian border.
http://www.ijc.org/en/_iscrbw

St. Croix River Initiative: We are working with the International Joint Commission on fish passages along the dam. The three Passamaquoddy Tribes (two in the US, one in Canada) are involved.

EPA attended an International St. Croix River Watershed Board meeting on Nov 29, 2017 in Bangor, ME (hosted by ME DEP).

The FERC surrender of license process is underway regarding the Forest City dam (4th dam upstream of tidal water.). The removal or breaching of the dam would be unpopular as water levels would drop. Efforts are underway to determine if a new owner could be found who would continue to maintain the dam. In addition to Forest City, there are post licensing discussions between state and Federal fishery agencies and the dam owner regarding fish passage at the Vanceboro dam (next dam downstream of Forest City).

St. John River Watershed Restoration Collaboration | Mike Stover, Mike Knapp

The Houlton Band of Maliseets and Canadian First Nations engaged US and Canadian federal agencies regarding a New Brunswick Power decision process to either continue maintaining or remove the Mactaquac Dam, which impedes upstream fish passage to US and Canadian waters. However, New Brunswick Power, the owner of the dam, decided to maintain the dam to extend its useful life to 2060, and incorporate fish passages to remedy the fish passage concern. The collaboration is also working on a long-term plan for habitat restoration of the river. On May 31, 2017 EPA R1 signed a Statement of Cooperation with the following partners:

- Environment & Climate Change Canada
- Fisheries & Oceans Canada
- US Fish & Wildlife Service
- US Geological Survey
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- US Army Corps of Engineers
- Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians
- Madawaska First Nation
- Kingsclear First Nation
- Oromocto First Nation
- Tobique First Nation
- St. Mary's First Nation
- Woodstock First Nation

Through the collaboration a technical workgroup has formed to begin the task of prioritizing areas of the watershed that are most vulnerable and/or where work can be initiated using the EPA Healthy Watersheds optimization tool and other watershed tools. Discussions on harmonizing data with Canadian datasets will begin. Work is continuing on restoration planning of the river and its watershed, developing tools and creating a permanent organizational structure. A spring Summit is planned at Tobique First Nation (New Brunswick) on April 25-26, 2018.

Tribal | Mike Stover, Mike Knapp

There are four New England tribes near the Maine/Canadian border that can or do have cross-border issues: the Aroostook Band of Micmacs; the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians; the Passamaquoddy Tribe - Pleasant Point; and the Passamaquoddy Tribe - Indian Township.

The Gulf of Maine Council has a representative from the Passamaquoddy Tribe –Pleasant Point, who represents the interests of the New England tribes.

See additional work in the St. Croix and St. John River summaries.

International Groups of Interest | Ken Moraaff, Lynne Hamjian, Mel Cote, Cynthia Greene

Canadian Forest Service

Forest industry and forest and eco-system researchers.

OURANUS

Montreal organization that provides climate change services (science, tools, research, analysis, grants management to researchers, organizations, and government entities.

NROC

Meetings with Canadians concerned with climate change and coastal issues.

Office of Environmental Stewardship

Alternative Dispute Resolution | Ellie Tonkin

The Houlton Band of Maliseets and Canadian First Nations have engaged US and Canadian federal agencies regarding New Brunswick Power Company's decision to either continue maintaining or remove the Mactaquac Dam. The dam is of particular concern to the Band and First Nations because it impedes upstream fish passage to US and Canadian waters in the St. John River Watershed. Since 2016, at the request of the participants, EPA has supported the use of neutral facilitation to assist with a dialogue among the Band and First Nations, the US. and Canadian governments, and the company. Specifically, Region 1 has worked with Headquarters' Conflict Prevention and Resolution Center to provide funding

and a contract mechanism to engage experienced environmental and public policy mediator Pat Field of the Consensus Building Institute to facilitate these ongoing discussions.

EPCRA/CAA | Len Wallace

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and the Clean Air Act (CAA) also come into play when Propane and Compressed Natural Gas facilities are close to the border.

We conduct joint training exercises, which are typically held in the US.

FIFRA Import/Pesticide Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) | Kan Tham

FIFRA requires pesticide importers to file Notices of Arrivals (NOAs) to EPA for review and approval before a pesticide product can enter the United States. This is critical work which assures that pesticides entering the US contain the appropriate registration and labeling information to protect the public. As Region 1's Pesticide Import Coordinator, Kan Tham reviews and processes 1500-2000 NOAs annually in coordination with US Customs and Border Protection (CBP). If issues are found, Region 1 works with CBP to hold the pesticide product at the point of entry for inspection or to take other actions as appropriate. Kan periodically interacts with Health Canada's Pesticide Management Regulatory Agency, but most coordination with them is through HQ. In the case of enforcement, the region works in concert with HQ. In Aug 2017, Ferti Technologies, Inc., a Canadian pesticides importer of soil fertilizers mixed with herbicides, imported a single shipment of four pesticide products to Vermont without submitting the proper NOAs prior to shipment. EPA issued a complaint and the company eventually agreed to pay a \$10,170 penalty.

RCRA Import/Export | Sue Nachmann

HQ handles all requests to export hazardous wastes from domestic entities, which ultimately results in either the written consent to or denial of exports issued by HQ based, in part, on the review and consent from the foreign country.

All requests to import hazardous wastes are referred to the regions for review who recommend to HQ consent to or denial of an importation based on the content of the original notice, a review of the receiving facility's compliance history and ability to accept the waste, and on additional information requested from either the appropriate foreign governmental agency or the domestic receiving facility. Based on the region's recommendation, HQ will issue a written decision to the foreign government regarding EPA's decision. It is then the foreign government who relays this decision to the requesting exporter.

No export from or import into the United States can proceed without a written confirmation issued by HQ, or the equivalent foreign government. Often, procedures for the review and consent process are memorialized in memorandums of agreement including one between the US and Canada.

In Region 1, most of the importation notifications originate from Canadian sources. A majority of the hazardous wastes imported into Region I are slated for reclamation/recycling (e.g., reclamation of precious metals from hazardous spent liquids or solids). Region 1 typically reviews 10-20 RCRA import notices annually.

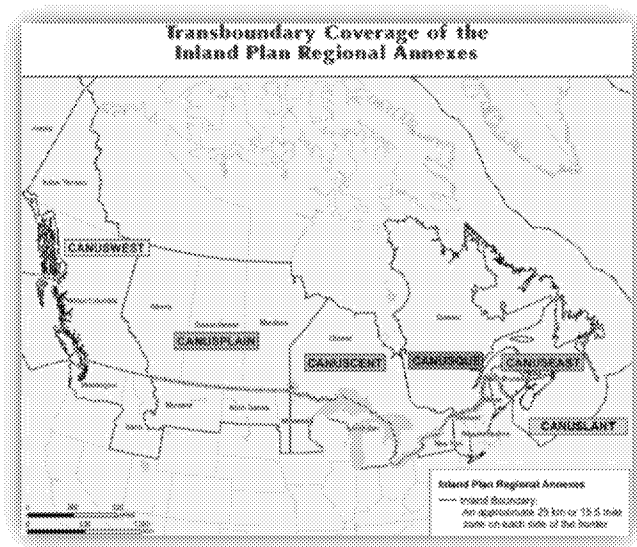
Office of Site Remediation and Restoration

Emergency Response | Carol Tucker, Ted Bazenas, Mike Barry, James Carew

The Administrator of the EPA and Government of Canada's Minister of the Environment ratified the Canada-United States Joint Inland Pollution Contingency Plan (Inland Plan) in 2009. The Inland Plan sets forth cooperative measures for planning and responding to releases of pollutants along the US-Canada border, including the provision of assistance in the event the pollution impacts are fully contained on one side of the border.

Activation of the plan is triggered when a release of a pollutant causes, or may cause, damage to the environment along the inland international boundary, or constitutes a threat to public safety, security, health, welfare, or property. The International Joint Advisory Team (IJAT) is the Headquarters level policy and advisory board responsible for the maintenance of the Inland Plan, and providing support and advice to the responding On-Scene Coordinators (OSC).

The inland international boundary is divided into five planning areas, each with a regional Annex that describes the jurisdiction, roles, and response procedures of regulatory and support agencies within each planning area. EPA Region 1 is signatory to the CANUSEAST Annex, which includes the shared border between the State of Maine and the Canadian Province of New Brunswick. EPA Regions 1 and 2 are signatories to the CANUSQUE Annex, which includes the shared borders between the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York and the Canadian Province of Québec. The CANUSEAST and CANUSQUE Annexes were signed by the EPA Regional Administrator(s) and Environment and Climate Change Canada's (ECCC) Director General, Environmental Protection Operations Directorate, in 2013.



The objectives of the CANUSEAST and CANUSQUE Annexes are to:

- Enable timely and accurate notification of authorities at all levels of government concerning polluting incidents impacting the covered area
- Establish effective preparedness and response cooperation mechanisms between the US and Canada to mitigate polluting incidents
- Comply with applicable health and safety standards of each country during responses
- Enable the safe and timely movement of adequate resources, including personnel, equipment and supplies across the international boundary
- Coordinate timely public information releases in both countries

EPA Region 1's Emergency Planning and Response Branch (EPRB) is charged with working directly with ECCC on response related issues. An incident specific group called the Regional Joint Response Team (RJRT) will be established to advise the OSC during responses. Composition of the RJRT is dictated by the

needs of the incident, and can include agencies derived from Regional Response Team (RRT) member agencies on the US side, and member agencies of the Science Table on the Canadian side. Like the IJAT, the RJRT advises the OSC on issues relating to hazardous substance planning for spills along the US - Canada border within 25 km (15.5 miles) on either side of the border. EPRB and ECCC coordinate training and exercises to test the procedures in, and provide updates to, the relevant Annex.

The Inland Plan is intended to compliment the Canada-United States Joint Marine Pollution Contingency Plan (Marine Plan or JCP), maintained jointly by the Canadian and US Coast Guards. The JCP is divided into five Annexes, with the CANUSLANT Annex incorporating the waters seaward of the shoreline of the Bay of Fundy and the Gulf of Maine. CANUSLANT includes the Joint Response Team (JRT), with responsibilities paralleling the Inland Plan's RJRT. EPRB and ECCC actively participate in the CANUSLANT JRT meetings, trainings and exercises as support agencies.

Inland Plan

[https://nrt.org/sites/38/files/CANUS%20Joint%20Inland%20Pollution%20Contingency%20Plan%20\(1\).pdf](https://nrt.org/sites/38/files/CANUS%20Joint%20Inland%20Pollution%20Contingency%20Plan%20(1).pdf)

CANUSEAST

https://nrt.org/sites/38/files/CANUSEAST_Final_with_Signatures_26_Aug_2013.pdf

CANUSQUE

https://nrt.org/sites/38/files/CANUSQUE_Final_with_Signatures_26_Aug_2013.pdf

(Please see the attachments section for copies of each of these three documents.)

Annex	Event	Date	Comments
CANUSLANT	Meeting	15-16 May 2018	EPRB is scheduled to attend JRT meeting held in Rockport, ME.
CANUSLANT	Meeting	12-14 Dec 2017	EPRB participated in JRT meeting held in Boston and EPRB personnel participated.
CANUSLANT	Exercise	12-13 Sep 2017	Cancelled due to disaster response in US
CANUSLANT	Meeting	3-Aug-2017	EPRB participated by teleconference in JRT meeting held in Halifax, NB.
CANUSQUE	Notification	13-May-2017	EPA R1 notified ECCC of an oil sheen on Lac-Wallace in Saint-Herménégilde, Québec
CANUSLANT	Meeting	25-26 Oct-2016	EPRB participated in JRT meeting in Rockport, ME.
CANUSQUE	Notification	16-Jun-2016	EPA R1 notified ECCC of an oil sheen on the Missisquoi River in Swanton, VT
CANUSLANT	Meeting	8-10 Jun 2015	EPRB participated in JRT meeting & Environmental Workshop held in St. Andrews, NB.
CANUSQUE	Notification	24-Mar-2015	EPA R1 notified ECCC of an ammonia release from a cheese facility in Swanton, VT. Release identified during an EPA EPCRA inspection.
CANUSQUE	Notification	7-Jul-2013	Canada notified EPA R1 of an oil discharge following train accident in Lac-Mégantic, QC
CANUSQUE/ CANUSEAST	Annexes signed	18-Jun-2013	Annex signed by R1 RA
CANUSLANT	Exercise	17-20 Jun 2013	Full Scale Exercise held in St. John, NB and Calais, ME. EPRB participated as part of the exercise planning team and participated in the exercise.

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) attended the Regional Response Team 1 (RRT1) meeting in April of 2017 in Burlington, VT. An RRT consists of representatives from 16 federal agencies, and representatives designated by each state within the respective federal standard Region. RRTs focus on planning and coordination of preparedness and response actions, advising On-Scene Coordinators (OSC) undertaking response actions, developing and maintaining the Regional Contingency Plan, and providing guidance to area committees. In New England, RRT1 is co-chaired by the Incident Management Preparedness Advisor at the 1st Coast Guard District and the Branch Chief of EPA Region 1's Emergency Planning Response Branch (EPRB). Twice a year, RRT1 meets to provide agency updates and discuss pressing response related issues. The April 2017 meeting included discussions of recent activities of EPA and ECCC, the Joint Inland Pollution Contingency Plan, and development of Geographic Response Plans on Lake Champlain.

Geographic Response Plans (GRP) | James Carew, Karen Way

EPRB established a Task Force consisting of federal, state, local agencies and non-governmental organizations to develop 15 Geographic Response Plans (GRP) on Lake Champlain, three of which are on or in the vicinity of Missisquoi Bay, proximal to the international boundary. The GRPs supplement the Lake Champlain Sub-Area Plan and Inland Area Contingency Plan. GRPs are pre-event booming strategies developed by experienced pollution responders, designed to help first responders deploy effective booming strategies for expedited recovery of floating product and minimization of downstream impacts.

Multi-Agency Contingency Plan for Emergency Environmental Incidents in the Lake Champlain Region (Lake Champlain Sub-Area Plan) | James Carew, Karen Way

ECCC participated in several of the meetings and training events leading to the development of the "Multi-Agency Contingency Plan for Emergency Environmental Incidents in the Lake Champlain Region" (Lake Champlain Sub-Area Plan). EPRB worked with EPA Region 2, US Coast Guard Sector Northern New England and the States of Vermont and New York, to develop and implement the Lake Champlain Sub-Area Plan. The objective of this plan is to provide a framework for response to environmental emergencies within the Lake Champlain Region among local public safety departments, county emergency management offices, state/provincial, and federal government agencies. A multi-year work plan was established to develop, exercise, edit the plan, and provide spill emergency response training leading to full implementation of the plan in June 2016.

2016 EPA International Decontamination Research and Development Conference | Ted Bzenas

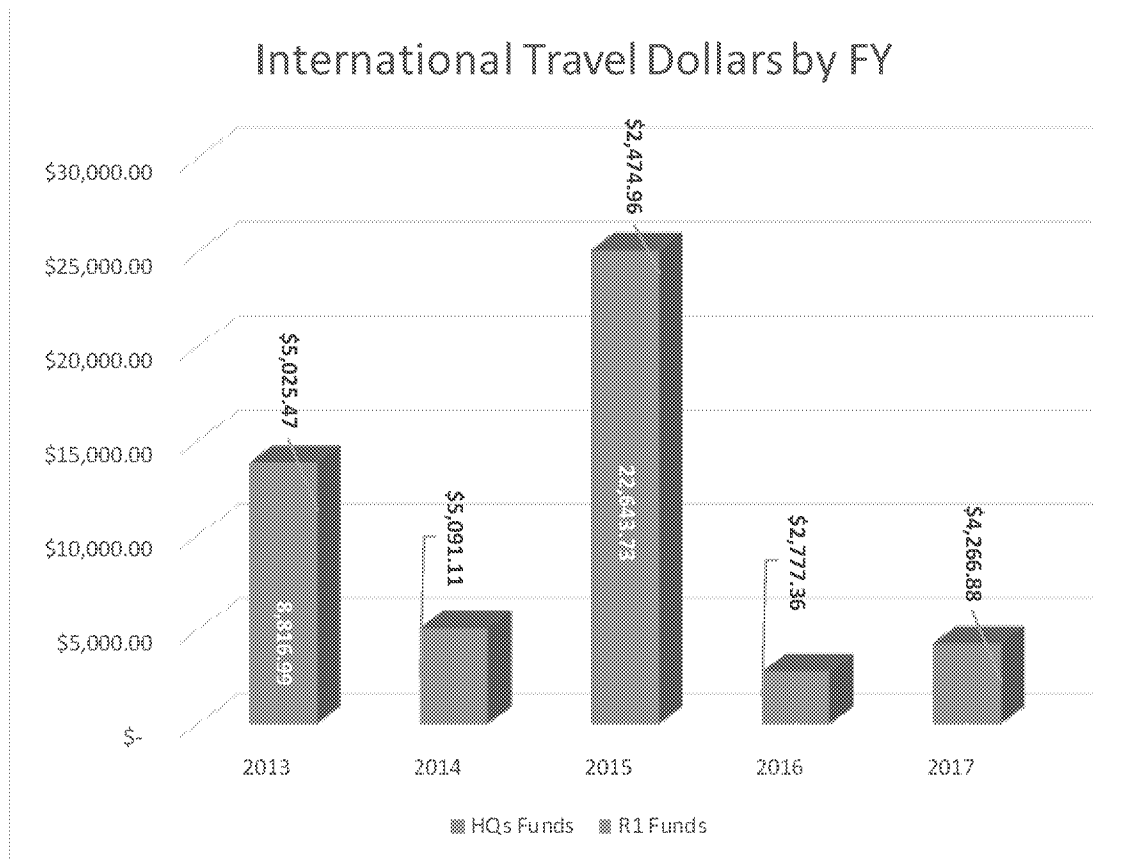
The EPA International Decontamination Research and Development Conference was held from November 1-3, 2016 and was hosted by EPA's National Homeland Security Research Center (NHSRC), at EPA's Research Triangle Park Campus, North Carolina. Participants at the conference facilitated presentations, discussion, and further collaboration on research and development that focused on chemical, biological, and radiological (CBR) contamination incidents, including those from terrorism or natural disasters. Decontamination is one of the critical challenges that the United States and EPA would face in recovering from major CBR incidents. Since 2005, the EPA Office of Research and Development's NHSRC has organized and hosted this international conference on decontamination research and development, focusing on an all-hazards approach to cleaning up contaminated buildings (both interior and exterior), infrastructure, and other areas/materials. The conference featured presenters and

attendees from the USA, Japan, Canada, the United Kingdom, Singapore, the Czech Republic and other foreign countries. The next iteration of this conference is scheduled for May of 2018.

Office of Administration Resources and Management

International Travel | Mike Kenyon, Fred Weeks, Brenda Haslett

This summary includes two bar charts that depict the dollars spent by Region 1 and EPA HQ on international travel from 2013 – 2017 and the corresponding number of individual travelers for the same time period; and a table which lists the names of the international travelers by fiscal year and funding source (HQ or Region 1).





International Travelers by Fiscal Year and Funding Source (HQ or Region 1)

The majority of our Canada trips have been funded by Region 1. International travel is also funded by the Office of International and Tribal Affairs (OITA). The particulars of each trip determine the funding source.

FY	Reg/HQs Funds	Traveler	Begin	End	Itinerary	Total
2013	HQs Funds	KENYON, PETER W.	11/10/2012	11/17/2012	BUDAPEST,HUN	3126.67
			6/30/2013	7/6/2013	SAN SALVADOR,ES	2258.4
			11/9/2013	11/16/2013	BUDAPEST,HUN	3431.92
	HQs Funds Total					8816.99
	R1 Funds	ABELE, RALPH W.	6/16/2013	6/18/2013	BAILEYVILLE,ME	247.7
		HAMJIAN, LYNNE A.	11/13/2012	11/15/2012	WHITE RIVER JUN	513.29
		NALIPINSKI, MICHAEL	11/11/2012	11/15/2012	QUITO,ECU	2111.78
		SPALDING, H. CURTIS	12/14/2012	12/21/2012	TEL AVIV,ISR	2152.7
	R1 Funds Total					5025.47
	2013 Total					13842.46
2014	R1 Funds	ABELE, RALPH W.	6/2/2014	6/4/2014	CALAIS,ME	287.96
		COTE, MELVILLE P. JR	6/17/2014	6/19/2014	HALIFAX,CAN	1588.78
		HAMJIAN, LYNNE A.	6/4/2014	6/5/2014	WHITE RIVER JUN	452.16
		RODNEY, ANN D.	6/16/2014	6/21/2014	HALIFAX,CAN	2762.21
	R1 Funds Total					5091.11
	2014 Total					5091.11
2015	HQs Funds	KENYON, PETER W.	11/8/2014	11/15/2014	BUDAPEST,	11616.76
			6/17/2015	7/2/2015	BANGKOK,	7133.88
		SIMCOX, ALISON C.	4/18/2015	4/29/2015	TAIPEI,	3893.09
	HQs Funds Total					22643.73
	R1 Funds	ABELE, RALPH W.	6/9/2015	6/11/2015	CALAIS, ME	291.75
		BAZENAS, EDWARD J.	6/8/2015	6/11/2015	DARTMOUTH,	916.54
		CAREW, JAMES PATRICK	6/8/2015	6/11/2015	DARTMOUTH,	906.66
		HUNTER, JOHANNA M.	5/18/2015	5/20/2015	WOODSTOCK, VT	360.01
R1 Funds Total					2474.96	
2015 Total					25118.69	
2016	R1 Funds	ABELE, RALPH W.	6/13/2016	6/16/2016	CALAIS, ME	575.72
		BAZENAS, EDWARD J.	6/6/2016	6/9/2016	HALIFAX,	49.05
		COTE, MELVILLE P. JR	9/13/2016	9/14/2016	MONTREAL,	251.73
		FEUERBACH, MARYJO M.	2/16/2016	2/19/2016	QUEBEC,	359.94
			9/13/2016	9/14/2016	MONTREAL,	386.04
		HUNTER, JOHANNA M.	2/16/2016	2/19/2016	QUEBEC,	546.65
		RODNEY, ANN D.	6/6/2016	6/9/2016	FREDERICTON,	608.23
	R1 Funds Total					2777.36
2016 Total					2777.36	
2017	R1 Funds	COTE, MELVILLE P. JR	5/8/2017	5/10/2017	QUEBEC,	509.75
		FEUERBACH, MARYJO M.	5/8/2017	5/9/2017	QUEBEC,	319.91
		MORAFF, KENNETH W.	10/31/2016	11/3/2016	FREDERICTON,	569.51
			5/30/2017	6/1/2017	FREDERICTON,	1005.12
		STOVER, MICHAEL A.	10/31/2016	11/3/2016	FREDERICTON,	913.97
			5/30/2017	6/2/2017	FREDERICTON,	948.62
		R1 Funds Total				
	2017 Total					4266.88
Grand Total					51096.5	